

Situation in Nagaland and Mizo Land

202. Shri Swell: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether he and the Secretaries of the Cabinet Secretariat and the Minister of Defence visited Shillong in April to discuss about the situation in Nagaland and the Mizo Hills;

(b) whether they have submitted any report to Government on the result of their discussions; and

(c) whether any specific recommendations have been made in this report?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Vidya Charan Shukla): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

New Universities

203. Shri Swell: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the University Grants Commission has been insisting that no new University should be established in the Country without its concurrence; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

The Minister of Education (Dr. Triguna Sen): (a) The University Grants Commission is of the view that prior consultation and concurrence of the U.G.C. should be obtained before a new University is established.

(b) The Government of India are generally in agreement with this view.

Postal Stationery

204. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the postal Stationery is not available in the Post Offices in the countryside;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the printing of the postal stationery is entrusted to the Nasik Printing Press and its distribution to the Treasury Offices in the District and Sub-Treasury Offices in the Sub-Divisional Head Quarters;

(d) whether it is proposed by the P&T Board to entrust this task to the P&T Deptt.; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Departments of Parliamentary Affairs and Communications (Shri I. K. Gujral):

(a) No shortage of postal stationery in the Post Offices has been reported except occasional shortages of Inland Letter Cards.

(b) The shortage of Inland Letter Cards is mainly due to the inadequate printing capacity with the Nasik Security Press. Steps have already been taken to import necessary printing equipment which is expected to be received shortly. With the installation of the additional equipment complaints regarding shortages of Inland Letter Cards are likely to be eliminated.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The present procedure is working satisfactorily.

Regional Engineering College, Silchar

205. Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made to start Regional Engineering College in Silchar in the near future;

(b) whether land has been acquired for the purpose; and

(c) if so, the time by which construction will be started?